

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 18

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2006

INTRODUCED BY

Mimi Stewart

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO STUDY ASSESSMENT
INSTRUMENTS FOR DETERMINING THE READING READINESS OF STUDENTS
IN KINDERGARTEN THROUGH SECOND GRADE.

WHEREAS, most students can succeed in school if they have
the basic skills in reading and writing that are appropriate
for their grade level; and

WHEREAS, research shows that children who read well in the
early grades are far more successful in later years and that
those who fall behind often stay behind in academic
achievement; and

WHEREAS, students who cannot read well are much more
likely to drop out of school and have limited career
opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the achievement gap between minority and

.159651.1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 mainstream children grows wider over the first four years of
2 school; and

3 WHEREAS, a longitudinal study indicates that children at
4 risk for reading difficulty who received substantial
5 instructional intervention combined with a research-based
6 comprehensive reading program progressed more rapidly than
7 other students and were reading at close to grade level four
8 years later; and

9 WHEREAS, research shows that children scoring low on
10 assessments of phonemic awareness and letter naming at the
11 beginning of first grade started school with lower skills, made
12 less progress and fell farther behind as they progressed from
13 first through fourth grade; and

14 WHEREAS, reading readiness screening assessments are
15 necessary to identify the reading skills of children early in
16 their education to ensure that they are provided with
17 appropriate learning and intervention strategies;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
19 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the public education department be
20 requested to study assessment instruments that determine the
21 early reading readiness of students in kindergarten and that
22 incorporate a component to monitor the progress of literacy
23 skills of students in first and second grades; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education
25 department be requested to study successful instructional

.159651.1

underscoring material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 strategies that ensure a satisfactory reading readiness level
2 for kindergarten students and that improve the literacy and
3 skill levels for students in first and second grades; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education
5 department report its findings and recommendations to the
6 legislative education study committee by December 2006; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
8 transmitted to the secretary of public education and to the
9 director of the legislative education study committee for
10 appropriate distribution.

11 - 3 -
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25